FOND DU LAC PUB LIBRARY
3 90 00402 5329

A few days before Strawberry Shortcake's birthday, all of her friends meet to discuss plans for the berry best surprise birthday bash ever! Orange Blossom is going to decorate using the party supplies from her store. Lemon Meringue is going to bake a scrumptious birthday cake for everyone to enjoy. And Plum Pudding and Cherry Jam are going to perform a song-and-dance routine that's sure to get Strawberry groovin'! It seems like Strawberry's birthday is shaping up to be a berry special day, indeed—until complete disaster strikes! The girls are worried that they have ruined Strawberry's special day, but little do they know that the birthday girl has something of her own up her sleeve . . .
Put on your party hats! It's time to celebrate and cheer, *Happy Birthday, Strawberry Shortcake!*

Grosset & Dunlap
An Imprint of Penguin Random House
345 Hudson Street
New York, New York 10014
Manufactured in China
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

WITHDRAWN

FOND DU LAC
PUBLIC LIBRARY
OCT 01 2015
RECEIVED

Strawberry Shortcake™

Happy Birthday, Strawberry Shortcake!

GROSSET & DUNLAP
Penguin Young Readers Group
An Imprint of Penguin Random House LLC

Penguin supports copyright. Copyright fuels creativity, encourages diverse voices, promotes free speech, and creates a vibrant culture. Thank you for buying an authorized edition of this book and for complying with copyright laws by not reproducing, scanning, or distributing any part of it in any form without permission. You are supporting writers and allowing Penguin to continue to publish books for every reader.

Strawberry Shortcake TM & © 2015 Shortcake IP Holdings LLC. Used under license by Penguin Young Readers Group. All rights reserved. Published by Grosset & Dunlap, an imprint of Penguin Random House LLC, 345 Hudson Street, New York, New York 10014. GROSSET & DUNLAP is a trademark of Penguin Random House LLC. Manufactured in China.

ISBN 978-0-448-48748-9

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Strawberry Shortcake™

Happy Birthday, Strawberry Shortcake!

By Mickie Matheis
Illustrated by Laura Thomas

Grosset & Dunlap
An Imprint of Penguin Random House

It was a beautiful day in Berry Bitty City, and Strawberry Shortcake had been busy baking all morning. She needed more flour to make one last treat—a cream-filled, berry-topped cake. She walked from her café over to the Orange Mart to get a bag.

When she opened the door of Orange Blossom's store, Strawberry heard excited chatter. All her friends were standing inside.

"Hi, girls!" she said cheerfully.

Strawberry's friends immediately stopped talking and began to act strangely. Orange Blossom crumpled up a piece of paper and threw it over her shoulder. Blueberry Muffin started to dig frantically through her purse.

Plum Pudding, who had been doing a pirouette, stopped in mid-twirl and sat down on a box.

Cherry Jam noisily dropped a clipboard into a wastebasket and turned to study a shelf of canned vegetables.

Raspberry Torte stepped in front of Lemon Meringue, who held a shopping basket. "Uh . . . Ha-ha . . . Hi there, Strawberry!" Raspberry stammered with a wave of her hand.

Orange rushed over to Strawberry. "What can I help you with, Strawberry?" she asked nervously.

"I just need a bag of flour," answered the little redhead, looking around at her friends.

"Here you go!" Orange said, shoving a bag into Strawberry's hands and hurrying her out the door. "Thanks for coming by!"

"Whew! That was close!"

Orange said to the others after Strawberry had left.

The girls had been planning a surprise party for Strawberry's birthday the next day. They hoped that their friend didn't suspect anything.

"Okay, does everyone know what to do?" Lemon asked.

"Yes!" Plum exclaimed, spinning around th store. "I'm so excited!"

"See you tomorrow at my place," said Blueberry with a big smile.

"This is going to be the berry best party ever!"

Raspberry said enthusiastically.

And it would have been—except nothing went according to plan!

Lemon forgot to set the timer on her oven and burned the birthday cake she was making for Strawberry.

Orange discovered that her party supplies were all sold out.

Raspberry accidentally broke the pretty pink dessert tray that the girls had gotten as a gift for Strawberry.

Plum couldn't find her favorite pair of dance shoes, and the strings on Cherry's guitar snapped, so they couldn't perform the birthday song-and-dance number they had planned.

Blueberry knocked glitter all over the glue-covered card she was making for Strawberry.

The card was ruined.

"This is going to be the berry worst party ever!"

she cried.

Later that day, the girls met at Blueberry's bookstore to discuss all their party-planning disasters. Everything was such a mess—what else could possibly go wrong?

Just then, the phone rang. It was Huckleberry Pie calling from Berry Big City.

"Blueberry, I'm sorry, but my pet-mobile isn't running. I'm not going to make it to Strawberry's party," said Huck.

Blueberry put her head in her hands. "This is terrible." She sniffled. "Now we can't have a party for Strawberry on her berry big day!"

Suddenly the door of the bookstore flew open. Pupcake and Custard rushed in carrying a bunch of red balloons.

"What's this?"
Lemon asked, reaching for them.

Each balloon had a girl's name on it and a note inside. "I can't read it," said Cherry, staring into her balloon.

"Then let's pop them!" Orange suggested. "One . . . two . . . three!"
The girls jumped on their balloons, and—

Pop!

—the papers that were hidden inside fluttered to the floor.
"Please come to the Berry Café right away," the notes read.

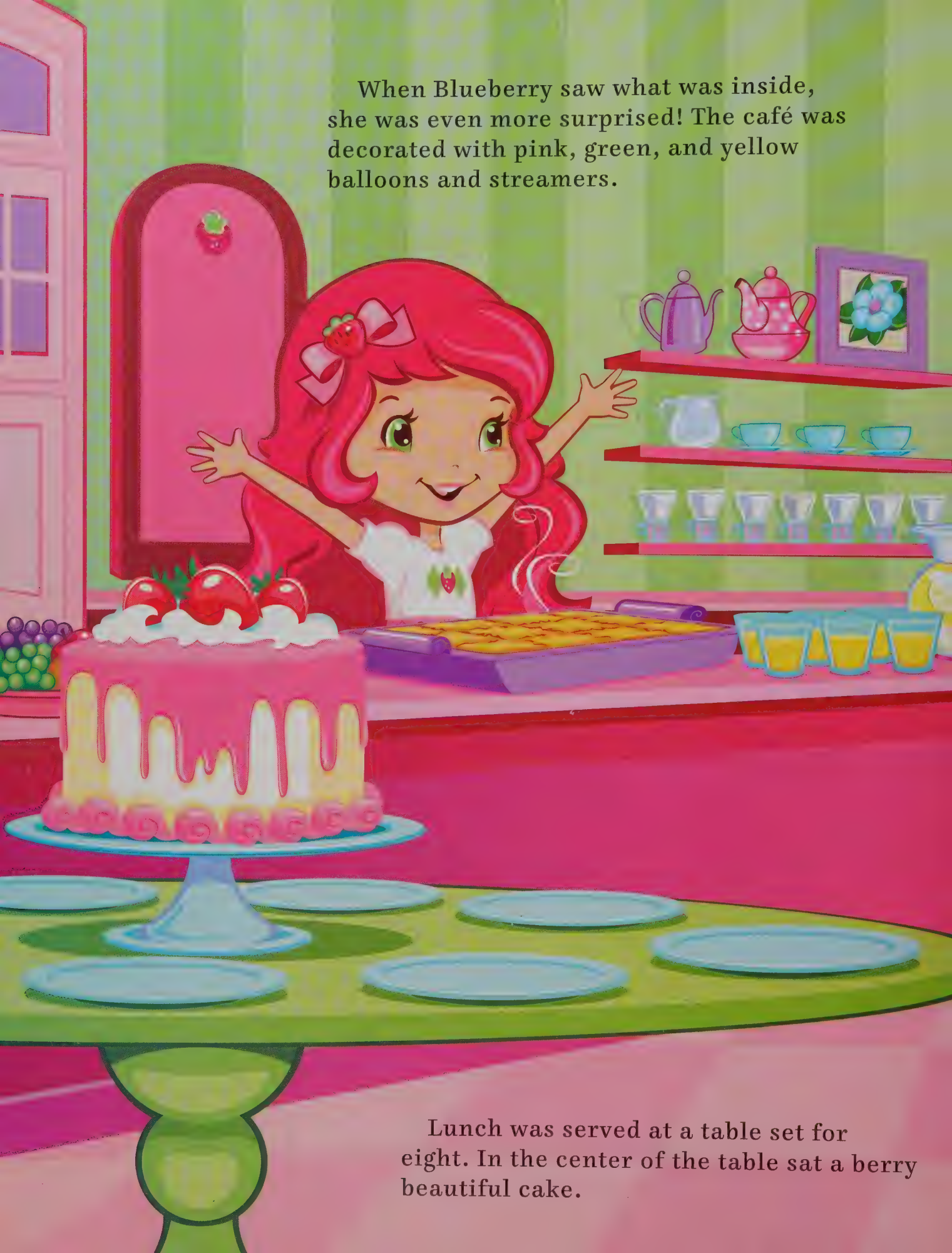
The girls exchanged puzzled looks.

What is Strawberry up to?

They all headed across town to the Berry Café. As they were about to walk inside, a voice from above called out, “Hello there!”

The girls looked up to see Huck floating down on a butterfly. "This butterfly just showed up at my house with a note saying to jump on and fly here!" he explained, hopping off and waving good-bye to the butterfly.

This is so strange, Blueberry said to herself as she reached for the doorknob of the café. *What is going on?*



When Blueberry saw what was inside, she was even more surprised! The café was decorated with pink, green, and yellow balloons and streamers.

Lunch was served at a table set for eight. In the center of the table sat a berry beautiful cake.

Just then Strawberry jumped up from behind the counter. "Surprise!" she called out to her friends.

But everyone was still confused. "What's this?" they asked.

"A birthday celebration!" Strawberry replied.

"But we were supposed to throw a party for you,"
Orange pointed out.

"No," Strawberry corrected her. "You're supposed to make my birthday happy. And guess what? You already do that—just by being my berry best friends. So I wanted to do something on my birthday to show you how much I appreciate all of you!"

The girls and Huck gathered around Strawberry and gave her a big hug. "Strawberry, you make every day happy for us—just by being you." Lemon smiled and gave her friend a big squeeze.

"Happy birthday, Strawberry Shortcake!"

Damage noted
on 11/29/19 by LJB
d tear.

About Strawberry Shortcake

Strawberry Shortcake and her berry best friends live in Berry Bitty City, a tiny world underneath the leaves of a berry patch. There, she and her friends run little shops and go on adventures that teach them about friendship, teamwork, and most of all, fun!

Strawberry Shortcake is everybody's berry best friend. When she's not running her Berry Café, she's hosting get-togethers with her friends or offering them help and advice. Her optimism is contagious, and she always sees big possibilities in everything—and everyone!

Strawberry Shortcake™

Orange rushed over to Strawberry.
"What can I help you with, Strawberry?" she asked nervously.
"I just need a bag of flour," answered the little redhead, looking around at her friends.
"Here you go!" Orange said, shoving a bag into Strawberry's hands and hurrying her out the door. "Thanks for coming by!"
"*Whew!* That was close!" Orange said to the others after Strawberry had left. The girls had been planning a surprise party for Strawberry's birthday the next day. They hoped that their friend didn't suspect anything.

TM and © 2015 Shortcake IP Holdings LLC.
Used under license by Penguin Young Readers Group.
All rights reserved.

$16.99 US
($19.99 CAN)

GROSSET&DUNLAP
www.penguin.com/youngreaders
www.penguin.com/strawberryshortcake

ISBN 978-0-448-48748-9

EAN 9 780448 487489 51699>

P7-DBE-393